Approved For Release 2007/04/17 : CIA-RDP99-00498R000100080045-7

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS SERVICE

Date. 9 Mar 77
Item No. 3
Ref. No.

DISTRIBUTION II
UP-079

(CIA)
(BY DANIEL F. GILMORE)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- PRESIDENT CARTER SAID WEDNESDAY HE WOULD PREFER TIGHTER CONTROLS ON ACCESS TO INTELLIGENCE SECRETS RATHER THAN CRIMINAL PENALTIES AGAINST PEOPLE WHO DISCLOSE THEM.

CARTER'S NEW CIA CHIEF, ADM. STANSFIELD TURNER, HAS ADVOCATED STRICTER CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT FOR THOSE WHO LEAK INTELLIGENCE SECRETS OR PUBLISH THEM.

CARTER HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE BEFORE ATTENDING TURNER'S SWEARING-IN WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AT CIA HEADQUARTERS IN NEARBY LANGLEY, VA.

HE SAID TURNER, A FORMER CLASSMATE AT THE NAVAL ACADEMY, KNEW "I WOULD NEVER PERMIT ANYTHING ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER" TO OCCUR IN CIA ACTIVITIES.

CARTER INDICATED HE DID NOT AGREE WITH TURNER ON THE QUESTION OF PUNISHMENT FOR DISCLOSURE OF INTELLIGENCE, SAYING HIS OWN INCLINATION IS TO "MINIMIZE THE USE OF ANY CRIMINAL PENALTIES".

"THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT EVERYTHING WE DO HAS TO BE REVEALED TO THE PUBLIC, AND DRAWING THAT DISTINCTION IS MY RESPONSIBILITY AND I THINK I CAN DO IT," CARTER SAID.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THE BEST WAY TO PREVENT "EMBARRASSMENT" FOR THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES IN MATTERS OF SECRECY BETWEEN NATIONS IS "TIGHTER CONTROL OF THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL."

HE SAID HE WANTS TO "PREVENT TOO MANY PEOPLE FROM KNOWING ABOUT MATTERS THAT THEY DON'T NEED TO KNOW ABOUT, AND TO PROTECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF OUR ALLIES."

ASKED IF HE WOULD PERMIT A FEDERAL GRAND JURY TO LOOK AT CERTAIN CIA DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH A REPORTED INVESTIGATION OF FORMER CIA DIRECTOR RICHARD HELMS, CARTER SAID, "I HAVE NOT BEEN ASKED FOR ANY DOCUMENTS" AND "THE CASE HAS NOT COME TO MY ATTENTION, EITHER OFFICIALLY OR UNOFFICIALLY."

"WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE CASE REALLY IS THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT," HE SAID. "THE REVELATION OF ANY DOCUMENTS AFFECTING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY WILL BE MY OWN JUDGMENT."

UPI 03-09 02:09 PES

Approved For Release 2007/04/17 : CIA-RDP99-00498R000100080045-7